

~~SECRET~~

The Director of Central Intelligence

Approved For Release 2004/07/28 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002100100044-0

Washington, D.C. 20505

*Allegation*

2175/A

1 June 1978

The Honorable Edward P. Boland  
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Over the past week or so there have been a number of articles in the press concerning intelligence. I would like to ensure that you and your Committee have the full story on these where they may have given some incorrect impressions. Rather than wait for an opportunity to brief your Committee in person, I thought I would take this opportunity to provide you some brief written comments.

Send  
plan  
exp  
not  
of  
if

Security Council has not approved any specific covert action plan.

25X1 Another story concerned our inability to act with respect to assisting  
[redacted] The facts here are that we were  
being very scrupulous in ensuring that any actions we took were fully  
in accord with the Presidential findings with respect to combating  
international terrorism. There was a fine line to be drawn as to  
25X1 [redacted] to be properly classed as "inter-  
national" terrorists. The general ruling was that they are not.  
Nonetheless, there was no action which the Italian government requested,  
or which we felt we could usefully offer to them, which was not taken by  
our government. At the time of Mr. Moro's death, however, we were still  
debating a proposed new Presidential finding for the purpose of ensuring  
that we did not have our hands tied if some new request or new opportunity  
developed. We would not want to have had any delay if there had been  
some way in which we could have assisted the Italians in saving Mr. Moro's  
life.

Hope this will help with any inquiries you may receive.

Yours sincerely,

*Stanfield Turner*  
STANFIELD TURNER

25X1

25X1 Approved For Release 2004/07/28 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002100100044-0

~~SECRET~~

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/28 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002100100044-0

Approved For Release 2004/07/28 : CIA-RDP81M00980R002100100044-0